



National Aeronautics and Space Administration
Goddard Space Flight Center

Wallops Flight Facility, Wallops Island, Virginia

Inside Wallops

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Pegasus/SNOE Launch is Successful

The first in a new class of inexpensive, student-built space missions funded by NASA was launched aboard an Orbital Sciences Pegasus rocket Feb. 25 at 11:05 p.m. PST. The Pegasus was dropped from an L-1011 aircraft 100 miles west of Monterey, CA, over the Pacific Ocean.

The mission, the Student Nitric Oxide Explorer (SNOE), will investigate the effects of energy from both the Sun and the magnetosphere on nitric oxide densities in the Earth's upper atmosphere.

The 254-pound SNOE carries an ultraviolet spectrometer and two photometers to measure the effects of the sun's x-ray radiation and magnetic field on nitric oxide production. This is believed to affect the variability in the Earth's upper atmosphere.

The first data from the spacecraft was received at 12:30 a.m. PST by the Poker Flat, AK, tracking station and relayed to the NASA telemetry facility at Vandenberg Air Force Base, CA.

"After the first orbit, the data from the spacecraft was exactly what we were hoping to see," said Dr. Charles Barth, SNOE Principal Investigator from the University of Colorado at Boulder.

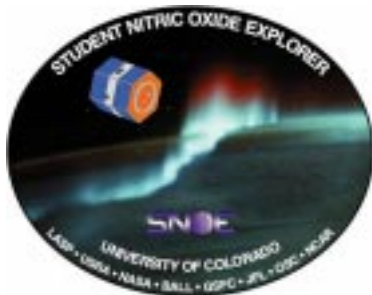
Barth and Dr. Tom Woods, University of Colorado pioneered the technology for obtaining this data using NASA sounding rockets. Suborbital sounding rocket missions conducted during the past 15 years led to the development of instrumentation and experiments used on SNOE. The launches, managed by NASA Goddard Space Flight Center's Wallops Flight Facility were conducted from the White Sands Missile Range, NM and Poker Flat Research Range, AK.

The SNOE spacecraft was designed, built and will be operated by the University of Colorado's

Laboratory for Atmospheric and Space Physics in Boulder. SNOE is the first of three student satellite projects selected to be built under the Student Explorer Demonstration Initiative (STEDI) program.

STEDI is a pilot program designed to assess the effectiveness of small, low-cost space flight missions. Goddard Space Flight Center manages the agency's responsibilities under the STEDI program for the Office of Space Science.

Information pertaining to SNOE is available on the Internet at the following URL: <http://lasp.colorado.edu/snoe/>



Sounding Rockets Launched in Coqui Dos Campaign

Three NASA sounding rockets were successfully launched last week from Tortuguero, Puerto Rico as a part of the Coqui Dos Campaign.

The first, a Black Brant V, was launched on Feb. 24 at 11:17 p.m. Atlantic Standard Time. The second, a Taurus-Orion, was launched the following morning at 3:43 a.m. Atlantic Standard Time. Both rockets carried payloads using three different techniques to compare in situ diffusion coefficient estimates. The objectives are to compare the in situ and ground based value, study the diurnal variation of the diffusion parameters and look for evidence of turbulent diffusion above the nominal turbopause. The principal investigator for both payloads is Miguel Larsen, Clemson University. Jay Scott is the Wallops payload manager.

A Terrier-Improved Orion was successfully launched seven minutes behind the Taurus-Orion. The objective of this flight is to obtain measurements of OH, O₃, O₂ and O with photometric and in situ resonance fluorescence methods. James Ulwick, Utah State University, is the principal investigator, and Jay Scott is the Wallops payload manager.

Wallops Employees On the Road for Engineer's Week

The following employees visited area schools in recognition of National Engineer's Week.

Jerry Doyon visited preschool and kindergarten students at Parkway Christian Academy and two 4th grade classes at Salisbury Christian School.



Rick Baldwin and Libby West spoke to 11th and 12th grade chemistry/physics students (above) at Broadwater Academy.

Mike Fillis spoke to two 6th grade math and science students at Snow Hill Middle School.

Barton Bull visited a 6th grade class at Northampton Middle School.

Dave Pierce traveled to Crisfield High School for two geometry classes with 10th, 11th and 12th grade students.

Sounding Rocket Operations Contract Request for Proposals Released

The NASA Sounding Rocket Operations Contract (NSROC) Request for Proposals (RFP) was released Feb 19, 1998.

The URL address for NSROC is: <http://nais.msfc.nasa.gov/EPS/GSFC/Synopses/DRFP5-10065-605/sol.html#DraftSol>

ISO 9001 Employee Awareness Training

NASA is the first government agency to seek certification to ISO 9001, a set of world-wide standards that emphasize product quality through customer awareness, process control and continuous improvement. Because Goddard is committed to becoming certified, the Center is providing a two hour session for all civil service employees to introduce the concepts of ISO 9001 and Goddard's Quality Management System.

The following schedule has been set up to allow civil service employees at Wallops the opportunity to participate.

All sessions will be in the Building F-3 Conference Area.

Date	Time	Last Name
3/10/98	9-11 a.m.	A - H
3/10/98	1- 3 p.m.	I - R
3/11/98	9-11 a.m.	S - Z

Employees who are unable to attend their designated session are encouraged to pick one of the other two times to go.

For further information email David Cleveland, at the following address: dclevela@pop300.gsfc.nasa.gov

Health Hints
by Dianne Hargove, R.N.

Know the Facts About Poisons



As consumers, we buy several products that make our lives easier. These products can be as dangerous as they are useful. Used correctly, they are not harmful. Clear warnings and instructions must be printed on the labels for consumer use and protection.

Only a small percentage of the American population is over age 65, yet they take 30 percent of all prescription drugs sold in the country.

In general, drugs affect older people differently than they do those who are young or middle-aged. This may be due to normal changes in body makeup that occur with age.

For example, as you grow older, the percentage of water and lean tissue (mainly muscle) decreases, while the percentage of fat tissue increases. These changes can affect the time a drug stays in the body and the amount absorbed by body tissues.

The kidneys and liver are responsible for breaking down and removing most drugs from the body. With age, these organs begin to function less efficiently, and drugs leave the body more slowly.

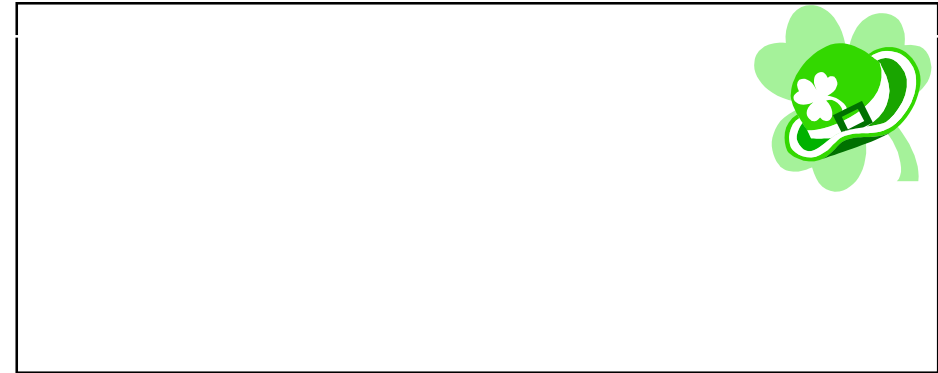
Use the plastic dosing cap that comes with liquid medicine. Don't substitute a cap from another drug product. Do not use tableware spoons to measure medicine. These come in many sizes and cannot be considered an accurate measure for medications.

Do not keep different pills in the same container. This may result in taking the wrong medicine at the wrong time. Also, some chemicals react with others and may even neutralize them.

Buy only the amount you need. Buying the jumbo size may not always save you money. With most drugs, the contents of giant-sized containers tend to spoil faster.

Each year, over 50 children 4 years of age and younger die from poisonings. Many poisonings happen when the household routine has been interrupted, such as when a parent is ill, the family is moving, or is on a trip or when there is tension in the family atmosphere.

Hungry or tired children tend to put objects into their mouths. Something that tastes awful to an adult may not faze a small child. They will swallow almost everything. Most poisonings result when children either eat or drink something that is not good for them. Usually this involves only one substance.



If you think someone has been poisoned, call the local poison-control center immediately. The phone number can be found on the inside cover of the yellow or white pages of the telephone directory. They are familiar with the toxicity of most substances found in the home or know how to find this information.

AREA POISON CONTROL NUMBERS:

Virginia 1-800-552-6337

Maryland 1-800-492-2414

Delaware 1-800-722-7112

Center Director's Colloquia Series

New Mission, New Opportunity: Finding One's Way Through Reorganization Without Getting Lost

**With: Jerome Jewell
When: March 11, 1998
Where: Wallops Channel 6**

Description: After strategic plans and organizational structures are unveiled, something more is needed to get where we want to be. Successfully finding one's way through reorganization and creating a new reality requires:

- Reframing one's personal vision
- Identifying new ways of accomplishing our work
- Thinking and acting strategically
- Listening to and addressing our reservations
- Exercising commitment

Jerome Jewell is a nationwide keynote speaker and author on management strategy, as well as an executive coach. His background includes 22 years in the corporate world, including 12 years at IBM. Jewell believes organizational change of the type and magnitude of Goddard's is not complete until each participant directly influences the outcome.

Jewell's presentation promises to be provocative. He will offer specific and practical advice on dealing with the key challenges to individual initiative in a changing organization.

Sympathy is extended to the family, friends, and co-workers of **Danny Williams.** Williams died Feb. 26 in Sentara Norfolk General Hospital. He was employed by Omne of New Jersey, Inc. as a security guard.

**St. Patrick's Day Party
5 p.m. March 17
Bldg. F-3**



**Snacks -- No Cost
(Donations accepted)
Entertainment
Contact Pat Pruitt, x1612**

Sympathy is extended to the family and friends of **Donald R. Rees.** Rees died at his home in Pocomoke City, MD of natural causes on Feb. 20. He retired in February 1986 as an electronics technician in the Range Instrumentation Branch.

**American Red Cross
Bloodmobile Blood Drive**

**March 6
10 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.
Bldg. F-3**



Call the Health Unit, x1336, for an appointment.

For Sale

Two-seat loveseat, medium blue corduroy. One seat reclines. \$150. Good condition. Call (757) 336-3693 weekdays between 6 and 9 p.m. or daytime on weekends

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